

Washington, DC – Today, Congressman Bruce Braley (IA-01) released the following statement after House Republicans released their 2012 budget:

“The disabled single mom in Waterloo who receives modest Social Security benefits did not cause this recession. Grandparents in Davenport who need to see their doctor didn’t crash the stock market. Yet that’s what today’s Republican budget says to Iowans and other middle class families.

These are people who worked hard, who played by the rules all their lives. They paid into Medicare, paid into Social Security, and it was supposed to be there for them. But politicians in Washington want to change the rules in the middle of the game – and now they want to eliminate Medicare for millions of Iowans for years to come.

What really got us into this fiscal mess was letting Wall Street run wild, fighting multiple wars for a decade at a time, and giving the very wealthiest Americans every possible break. Iowans didn’t create this deficit or double the debt – but politicians want them to be on the hook for the all of it. That’s just not right.

Fixing our economy is about shared responsibility – and that includes some shared sacrifice. But there’s no sharing on this budget. Iowans and other middle class families are being told to bear the whole burden – while Wall Street pays nothing. There’s nothing shared or responsible about that.”